

1 WE CLAIM:

2 1. A method for developing traffic messages comprising:

3 obtaining data indicating a plurality of traffic conditions on a road network, for  
4 each of said traffic conditions said data provides a start location at which said traffic  
5 condition begins and an end location at which said traffic condition ends;

6 for each of said traffic conditions, determining a road length from said start  
7 location to said end location; and

8 assigning a priority to said traffic conditions based upon said road lengths.

9

10 2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

11 transmitting said data indicating said traffic conditions in said assigned priority as  
12 a plurality of traffic messages.

13

14 3. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

15 transmitting said data indicating said traffic conditions as a plurality of traffic  
16 messages; and

17 an end user computing platform receiving said traffic messages and processing  
18 said traffic messages in said assigned priority.

19

20 4. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

21 selecting a subset of said traffic conditions, wherein said traffic conditions of said  
22 selected subset having higher assigned priority than said traffic conditions not selected;  
23 and

24 transmitting said subset of said traffic as a plurality of traffic messages.

25

26 5. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

27 transmitting said data indicating said traffic conditions having higher assigned  
28 priority more frequently than data indicating said traffic conditions having lower assigned  
29 priority.

30

31

1       6.     The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
2       obtaining an event description for each of said traffic conditions; and  
3       considering said event descriptions when assigning said priority.  
4

5       7.     The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
6       obtaining a duration for each of said traffic conditions; and  
7       considering said durations when assigning said priority.  
8

9       8.     The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
10      for each of said traffic conditions, identifying a road type on which said traffic  
11      condition is located; and  
12      considering said road types when assigning said priority.  
13

14      9.     The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
15      obtaining a direction affected for each of said traffic conditions; and  
16      considering said directions when assigning said priority.  
17

18      10.    The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
19      for each of said traffic conditions, identifying whether a priority location  
20      reference code is located within said traffic condition; and  
21      considering said identified priority location reference codes when assigning said  
22      priority.  
23

24      11.    The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
25      determining whether one of said traffic conditions is co-located or connected with  
26      another of said traffic conditions; and  
27      considering said co-locations or connections when assigning said priority.  
28  
29

1           12.    The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
2            using a plurality of predetermined range of road length categories;  
3            for each of said traffic conditions, determining which road length category said  
4 road length of said traffic condition belongs;  
5            changing said assigned priority of said traffic conditions within each of said road  
6 length categories based upon considering traffic condition information, wherein said  
7 traffic condition information includes at least one of: a type of traffic condition, a road  
8 type on which said traffic condition is located, a priority location is located within said  
9 traffic condition, a direction affected by said traffic condition, a duration of said traffic  
10 condition and co-location or connection with another of said traffic conditions.

11  
12           13.    A method for developing traffic messages comprising:  
13            obtaining data indicating a plurality of traffic conditions on a road network; and  
14            prioritizing said traffic conditions based upon considering at least one of: a road  
15 length affected by said traffic condition, a type of traffic condition, a road type on which  
16 said traffic condition is located, a priority location is located within said traffic condition,  
17 a direction affected by said traffic condition, a duration of said traffic condition and co-  
18 location or connection with another of said traffic conditions.

19  
20           14.    The method of Claim 13 wherein said step of prioritizing considers more  
21 than one of the traffic condition information and assigns a weighting factor to each of  
22 said considered traffic condition information.

23  
24           15.    The method of Claim 13 wherein said step of prioritizing considers at least  
25 one of said traffic condition information to form a preliminary order and considers at  
26 least another of said traffic condition information to modify said preliminary order.

27  
28           16.    The method of Claim 13 wherein said direction is a direction of a  
29 commute.

30  
31

1           17.    The method of Claim 13 further comprising:  
2           transmitting said data indicating said traffic conditions in a sequence established  
3 by said step of prioritizing.

4  
5           18.    The method of Claim 13 further comprising  
6           selecting a subset of said traffic conditions, wherein said traffic conditions of said  
7 selected subset having higher priority than said traffic conditions not selected; and  
8 transmitting said subset of said traffic as a plurality of traffic messages.

9  
10          19.    The method of Claim 18 wherein said subset of said traffic conditions is a  
11 predefined number of traffic conditions located within a broadcast service area.

12  
13          20.    A method for developing traffic messages comprising:  
14          obtaining data indicating a plurality of traffic conditions on a road network, for  
15 each of said traffic conditions said data provides a start location reference code  
16 representing a location at which said traffic condition begins, an end location reference  
17 code representing a location at which said traffic condition ends and an event description;  
18          ranking said traffic conditions into a prioritized order based upon considering at  
19 least one of: a road length affected by said traffic condition, an importance of said event  
20 description, a road type on which said traffic condition is located, a priority location is  
21 located within said traffic condition, a direction affected by said traffic condition and co-  
22 location or connection with another of said traffic conditions;  
23          transmitting said data indicating said traffic condition in said order as a plurality  
24 of traffic messages.

25  
26          21.    The method of Claim 20 further comprising assigning a weighting factor  
27 to at least one of: said road length, said importance of said event description, said road  
28 type, said priority location, said direction and said co-location or said connection.  
29

1           22.    The method of Claim 20 further comprising an end user computing  
2 platform receiving said traffic messages and processing said traffic messages in said  
3 prioritized order.

4  
5           23.    The method of Claim 20 wherein a number of traffic messages transmitted  
6 is less than a total number of said traffic conditions.

7